Amendments to the Claims

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Security apparatus comprising:

~~a receiver for receiving a security metric associated with a computer entity;~~

~~means for presenting to a user the security metric;~~

means for representing to a user a plurality of components of a computer platform;

means for representing to the user interactions among the plurality of components; and

means for allowing the user to modify~~ing~~ a security setting associated with at least one of the plurality of components ~~the computer entity to enable the modification of the security metric associated with the computer entity~~.

2. (Currently Amended) Security apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the means for representing the plurality of components comprise: ~~the security metric is presented to a user as a representational model of~~ means for representing software and/or hardware functionality of the computer ~~entity~~platform.

3. (Currently Amended) Security apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising input means for allowing [[a]]the user to interact with the modifying means to modify the security setting.

4. (Currently Amended) Security apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising means for providing ~~establishing~~ possible modifications to the security setting ~~based upon the received security metric~~.

5. (Currently Amended) Security apparatus according to claim 1, wherein [[the]]a level of complexity of ~~the presented~~ representing to the user the plurality of components

is selectable by [[a]]the user.

6. (Currently Amended) Method for modifying the security status of a computer apparatus, the method comprising:

~~receiving a security metric associated with a computer entity;~~

~~presenting to a user the security metric;~~

representing to a user a plurality of components of a computer platform;

representing to the user interactions among the plurality of components; and

allowing the user to modify~~ing~~ a security setting associated with at least one of the plurality of components ~~the computer entity to enable the modification of the security metric associated with the computer entity~~.

7. (New) The method according to claim 6, wherein representing the plurality of components comprises:

representing software and/or hardware functionality of the computer platform.

8. (New) The method according to claim 6, further comprising:

presenting to the user possible modifications to the security setting.

9. (New) The method according to claim 6, further comprising:

allowing the user to select a level of complexity of representing to the user the plurality of components.

10. (New) A computer system, comprising:

a memory to store computer-readable code; and

a processor operatively coupled to said memory and configured to implement said computer-readable code, said computer-readable code being configured to:

represent to a user a plurality of computer components;

represent to the user interactions among the plurality of computer components; and

allow the user to modify a security setting associated with at least one of the computer components.

11. (New) The computer system according to claim 10, wherein representing the plurality of computer components comprises:

representing software and/or hardware functionality of a computer.

12. (New) The computer system according to claim 10, wherein the computer-readable code is further configured to:

present the user possible modifications to the security setting.

13. (New) The computer system according to claim 10, wherein the computer-readable code is further configured to:

allow the user to select a level of complexity of representing to the user the plurality of computer components.

14. (New) Method for modifying the security status of a computer component, the method comprising:

depicting a plurality of computer components;

depicting interactions among the plurality of computer components; and

allowing modification of a security setting associated with at least one of the computer components.

15. (New) The method according to claim 14, wherein depicting the plurality of computer components comprises:

depicting software and/or hardware functionality of a computer.

16. (New) The method according to claim 14, further comprising:

presenting possible modifications to the security setting associated with one or more of the computer components.

17. (New) The method according to claim 14, further comprising:

allowing selection of a level of complexity for displaying the plurality of computer components.